

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Reporting Requirements Not Met for Cape May Water & Sewer Utility

Our water system recently violated a drinking water reporting requirement. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what are doing to correct this situation.

Our water system failed to submit a revised optimal corrosion control treatment (OCCT) recommendation following a lead Action Level Exceedance (ALE), thereby violating a drinking water reporting requirement.

### What happened?

We routinely sample water at consumers' taps for lead and copper. The results from January 2023 through June 2023 show lead levels in the water above the action level of 15 parts per billion, so we are required to submit an OCCT to the NJ Division of Water Supply & Geoscience. A revised OCCT should have been completed and submitted 30 days after becoming aware of the ALE.

### What should I do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce exposure:

- Run water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using to for drinking or cooking if it hasn't been used for several hours.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.
- Do not boil the water to remove lead and copper.
- Use alternate sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider using bottled water for drinking and cooking or a water filter designed to remove lead. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) for information on performance of standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's standards to ensure water quality.
- Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for Lead if you are concerned about Lead exposure. *\*Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.\**

### What is being done?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Typically, lead enters water supplies by leaching from lead or brass pipes and plumbing components. New lead pipes and plumbing components containing lead are no longer allowed for this reason. However, many older homes may contain lead pipes. Your water is more likely to contain high lead levels if water pipes in or leading to your home are made of lead or contain lead solder.

A revised optimal corrosion control treatment (OCCT) recommendation will be submitted to the NJ Division of Water Supply & Geoscience within 15 days of receiving the violation. Lead levels for the compliance period following the ALE (July 2023 to December 2023), showed lead levels in the water below the action level of 15 parts per billion.

### Additional Information

For more information, or to learn more about your drinking water please contact Rob Cummiskey at 609-884-9576.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**

This notice is being sent to you by the Cape May Water & Sewer Utility.

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